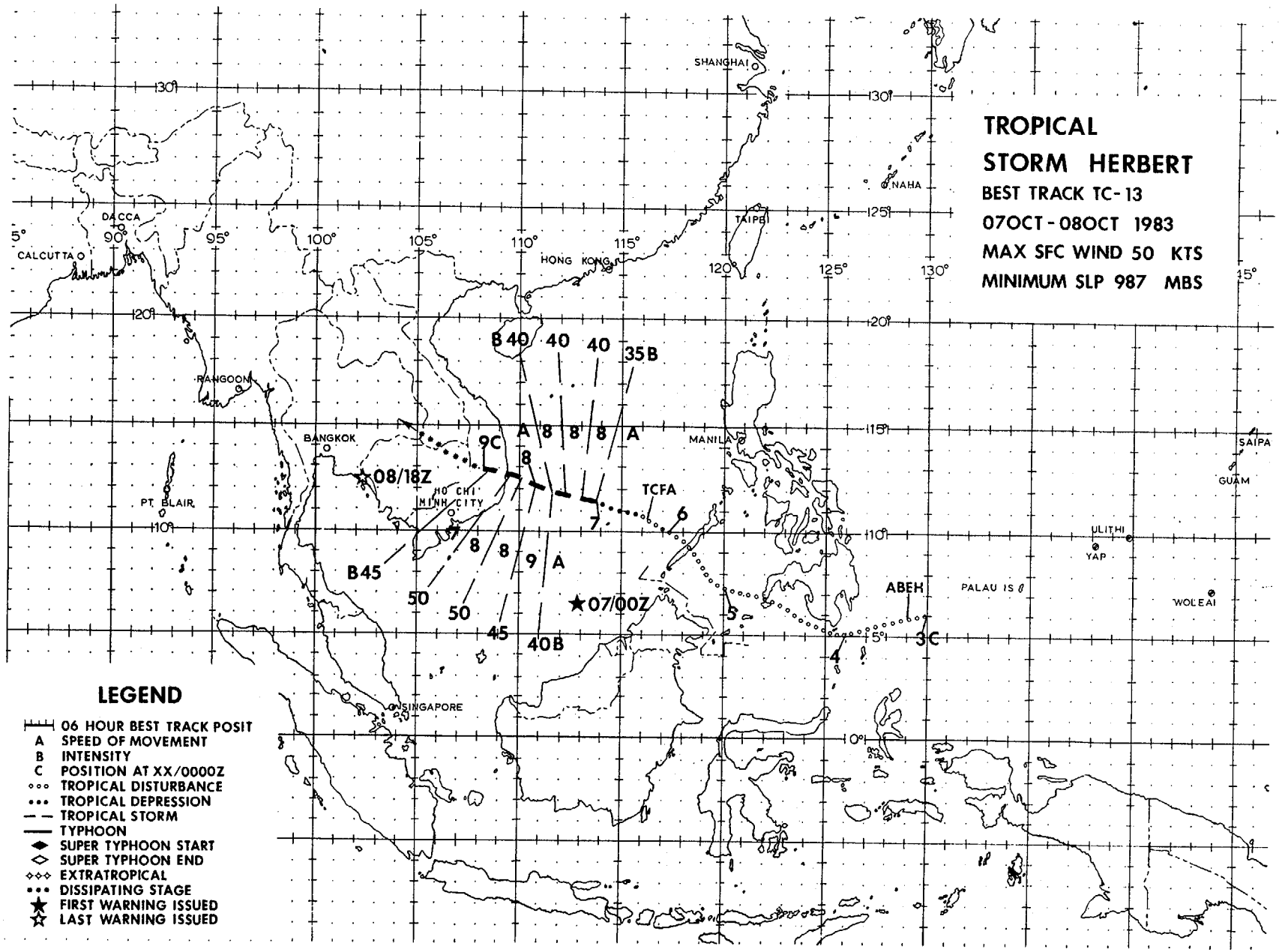
TROPICAL
STORM HERBERT
BEST TRACK TC-13
07OCT-08OCT 1983
MAX SFC WIND 50 KTS
MINIMUM SLP 987 MBS
LEGEND
06 HOUR BEST TRACK POSIT
A SPEED OF MOVEMENT
B INTENSITY
C POSITION AT XX/0000Z
TROPICAL DISTURBANCE
TROPICAL DEPRESSION
TROPICAL STORM
TYPHOON
SUPER TYPHOON START
SUPER TYPHOON END
EXTRATROPICAL
DISSIPATING STAGE
FIRST WARNING ISSUED
LAST WARNING ISSUED
SHANGHAI
NAHA
TAIPEI
HONG KONG
DACCA
CALCUTTA
RANGOON
BANGKOK
MANILA
SAIPA
GUAM
PT. BLAIR
HO CHI MINH CITY
ULITHI
YAP
PALAU IS
WOLEAI
SINGAPORE
08/18Z
07/00Z
TCFA
ABEH
B40
40
40
35B
9C
A 8 8 8 A
8
7
6
B45
50
50
45
40B
8
8
9
A
5
4
3C

Tropical Storm Herbert formed from a tropical disturbance which was first observed on 3 October as an area of unorganized convective activity located 250 nm (463 km) east of Mindanao. At this time, a weak surface circulation was apparent in the synoptic wind field associated with this convection. Maximum sustained surface winds were 15 kt (8 m/s) and the MSLP was 1010 mb. In spite of the apparent weakness of this disturbance, it was closely monitored by JTWC because a TUTT cell located to the north of the disturbance provided a favorable environment for the establishment of outflow channels.

Convective activity associated with this disturbance remained high over the next three days as the circulation moved westward over the Philippines but there was no increase in the intensity of the system until it emerged in the South China Sea. On the 6th of October, the disturbance entered an area of strong southwesterly monsoon flow and began to intensify. Satellite imagery at the time indicated the formation of convective banding in spite of the fact that upper-level flow was northeasterly and no longer highly divergent. A TCFA was issued at 060700Z on the basis of the increase in organization apparent from satellite imagery. Figure 3-13-1 shows Herbert at the time the alert was issued.

The system continued to intensify over the next 18 hours. At 070019Z, a reconnaissance aircraft was able to locate a well-defined surface circulation with 35 kt (18 m/s) winds, prompting the first warning by JTWC valid for 070000Z. Forecasts for Herbert anticipated continued west-northwestward movement and minimal intensification prior to landfall on the coast of Vietnam. This scenario proved correct as Herbert achieved a maximum intensity of 50 kt (26 m/s) six hours prior to landfall north of Nha Trang, Vietnam at 081200Z. Herbert dissipated rapidly over the mountainous terrain of central Vietnam but persisted as an area of enhanced convection and reduced surface pressures for several days as it moved westward over Indochina.

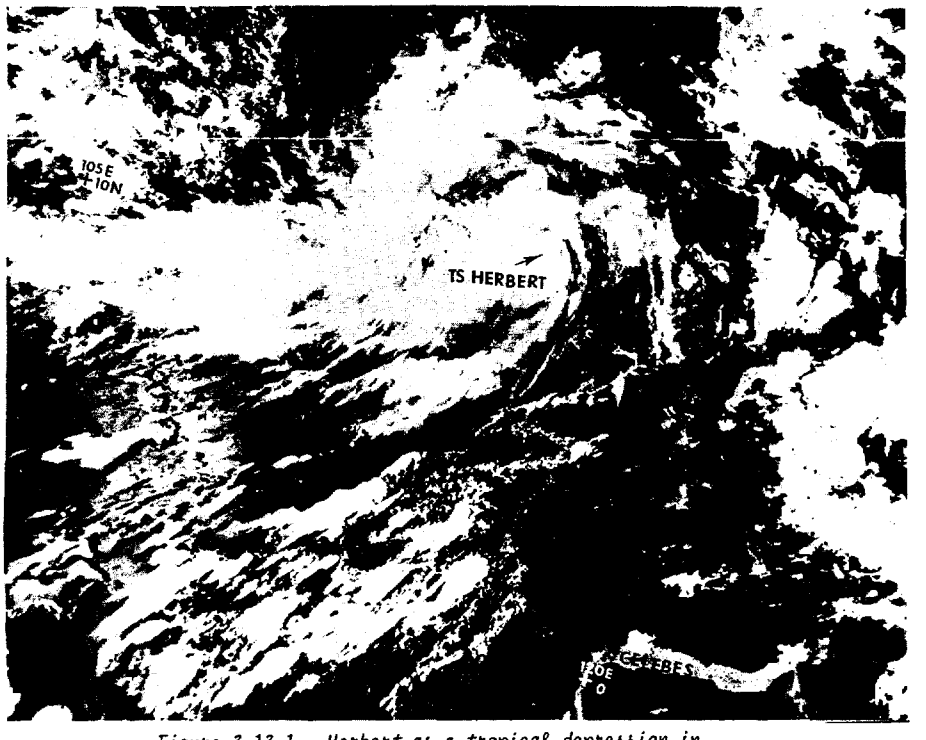

Figure 3-13-1. Herbert as a tropical depression in the South China Sea (060730Z NOAA 7 visual imagery).